

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 17292 220156Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 PA-01 DRC-01 L-03
SSO-00 /035 W
-----084285 221235Z /43
R 211830Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7959

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FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IT
SUBJECT: PUBLICATION OF DECLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS

1. THE PUBLICATION IN SEPTEMBER OF A NUMBER OF
DECLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS FROM THE EARLY 1950'S (PART OF A
VOLUME OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS SERIES) PRODUCED A
NUMBER OF FRONT-PAGE STORIES IN THE ITALIAN PRESS
THE STORIES ALLEGED THAT THE DOCU-
MENTS REVEAL THAT THE USG WAS PREPARED IN THE EARLY
FIFTIES TO USE ITS ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL POWER,
AND IF NECESSARY, US TROOPS, TO PREVENT THE COMMUNIST
PARTY FROM COMING TO POWER IN ITALY. UNFORTUNATELY,
THIS EMBASSY DID NOT HAVE ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE
PUBLICATION NOR OF THE CONTENT OF THE DOCUMENTS; IT
WAS THEREFORE NOT IN A POSITION TO TAKE ANY MITIGATING
ACTION WITH REGARD TO THESE STORIES IN WHICH THE
LEFTIST PRESS ONCE AGAIN PICTURED THE USG AS BLATANTLY
INTERVENTIONIST.

2. SINCE THE ABOVE IS NOT AN ISOLATED CASE AND
BOTH HISTORICAL PUBLICATION AND RELEASE OF DOCU-
MENTS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT WILL
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CONTINUE, IT WOULD SEEM APPROPRIATE AND DESIRABLE
THAT EMBASSIES BE GIVEN ADVANCE NOTICE ON THE CON-
TENTS AND PUBLICATION OR RELEASE DATES OF ANY
DECLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS. MOST, OF COURSE, WILL NOT
BE OF ANY CURRENT INTEREST, BUT OUR EXPERIENCE IN
ITALY IN RECENT YEARS INDICATES THAT THE ITALIAN PRESS
CAN FIND EVIDENCE OF PAST ALLEGED MISBEHAVIOR OR

BAD INTENTIONS AND USE IT AS A MEANS OF ATTACKING
OUR CURRENT POLICIES AND OPERATIONS. THESE ATTACKS
ARE OCCASIONALLY VERY DAMAGING. ACCORDINGLY I WOULD
HOPE THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILLESTABLISH NEW RULES
THAT REQUIRE ADVANCE NOTICE TO THE EMBASSIES CONCERNED
WHEN PREVIOUSLY CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS ARE RELEASED
FOR PUBLICATION. I SHOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF
YOU WOULD TAKE AN INTEREST IN THIS IMPORTANT PUBLIC
RELATIONS PROBLEM WHICH I FEEL CERTAIN IS NOT
CONFINED TO ITALY ALONE.
GARDNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLICATIONS, CLASSIFIED INFORMATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME17292
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770389-0653
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771033/aaaabbwq.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1fb19c29-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 829965
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUBLICATION OF DECLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1fb19c29-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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